

The **SPIRIT**

YES, EBONY, ALL I FOUND ON THE DOCK WAS HIS CLOTHES AND THE GUN HE SHOT HIMSELF WITH... THE BUBBLES IN THE WATER WERE THE ONLY SIGN OF ORANG, THE APE WHO COULD THINK LIKE A HUMAN!

THE MASTER CRIME FIGHTER KNOWN TO THE WORLD AS **THE SPIRIT**, IS REALLY DENNY COLT, LONG BELIEVED DEAD.. ONLY COMMISSIONER DOLAN KNOWS WHO HE IS.



DAT SHO' WAS AN EXCITIN' CASE, MISTUH SPIRIT! GOLLY, DOES YO THINK HE IS REALLY DEAD?

BY
WILL FISHER

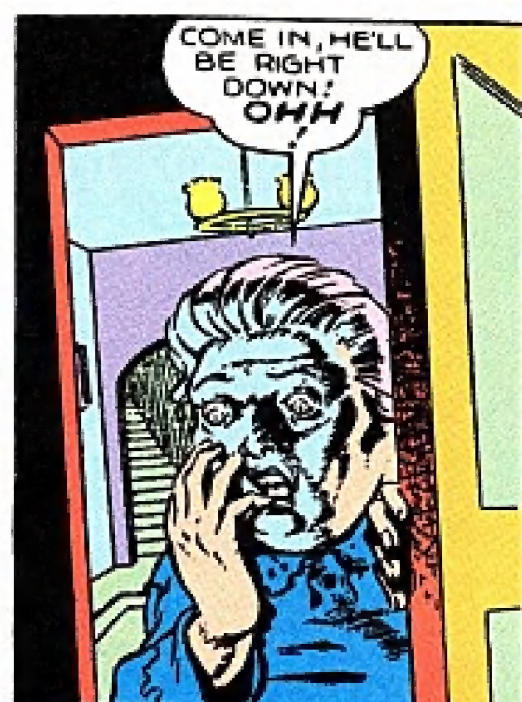
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**THE RETURN OF
ORANG**
THE APE THAT
IS HUMAN!

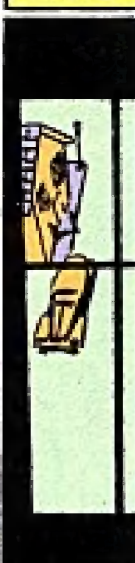


OUT OF THE MURKY OIL-SPOTTED WATERS OF THE EAST RIVER RISES A GRIM FORM.. SLOWLY, PAINFULLY, HE PULLS HIS HAIRY BODY ONTO A PIER..





IN A FEW MINUTES THE POLICE ARRIVE.



GOT HERE AS SOON AS I COULD.. WHAT'S THIS ABOUT A TALKING APE?



SHH.. HE'S COMING OUT OF THE ETHER.



OOOH.. MY HEAD ACHES..WHO IS THIS MAN?

I'LL BE..



I'M COMMISSIONER DOLAN.. YOU'RE UNDER ARREST!

WHAT FOR?

WELL.. ER.. THAT IS.. WELL YOU CAN'T GO AROUND ACTIN'.... THAT IS, TALKIN'.. BESIDES, I'M POLICE COMMISSIONER AND CAN ARREST ANY-ONE I DARN PLEASE!



NO YOU CAN'T! I'VE HARMED NO ONE..JUST BECAUSE I'M AN APE AND CAN TALK?? THERE ARE MANY MEN ON THE FORCE WHO LOOK LIKE ME!

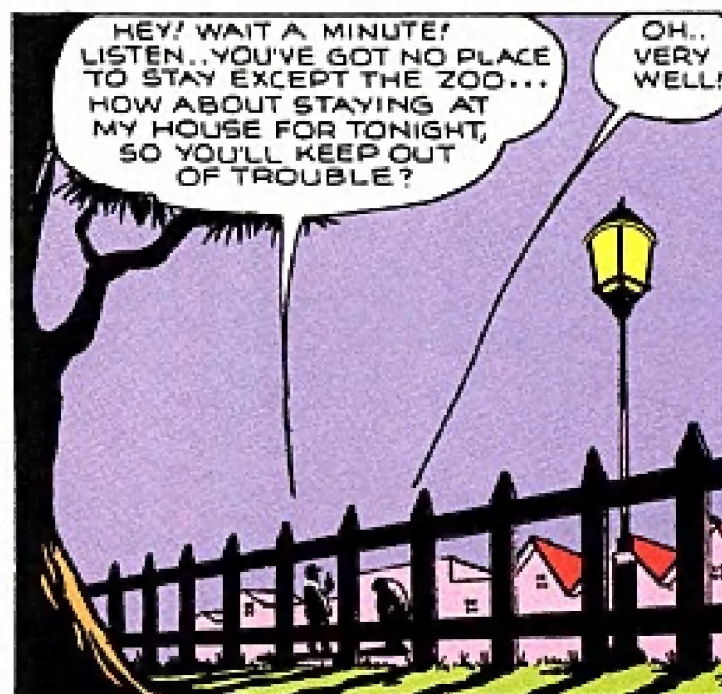


OH! FRESH, EH? HEY! WHERE YA GOIN'?

I DON'T KNOW.. NOR DO I CARE!



I'VE AN IDEA.. SEE YOU AT HEADQUARTERS LATER!



HEY! WAIT A MINUTE! LISTEN.. YOU'VE GOT NO PLACE TO STAY EXCEPT THE ZOO... HOW ABOUT STAYING AT MY HOUSE FOR TONIGHT, SO YOU'LL KEEP OUT OF TROUBLE?

OH.. VERY WELL!

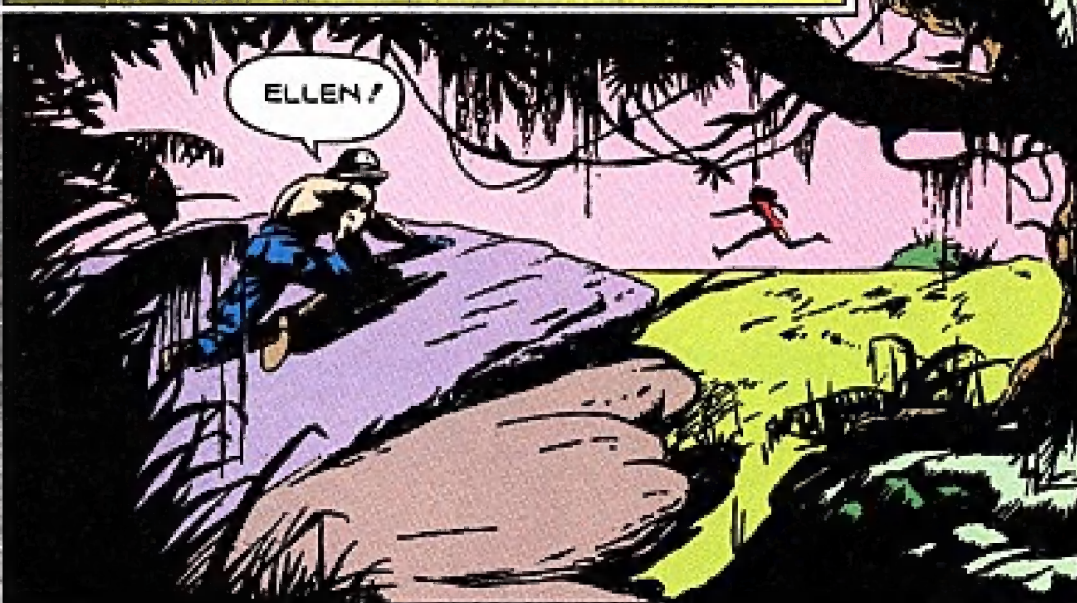


LEAVING HIS PLANE IN A LITTLE
OUTPOST TOWN, THE SPIRIT
SETS OUT ALONE INTO THE
STEAMING JUNGLES.

N
ACROSS
THE PACIFIC
TO SUMATRA
THE SPIRIT FOL-
LWS THEIR TRAIL.



AT LAST, ON THE DUSK OF THE FIFTH DAY, HE SEES A
GIRL RUNNING ACROSS THE HORIZON



AT LAST, ELLEN RECOVERS.

FINDING YOU WASN'T HARD. THE TOWNSPEOPLE ALL ALONG THE COAST HEARD OF A STRANGE APE-MAN AND HIS GIRL COMPANION.

IT WAS HORRIBLE! MANY TIMES I TRIED TO ESCAPE HIM, BUT HE WATCHED ME



LET'S HEAD BACK TO THE COAST!



OH OH! APES!

SURROUNDED!



SO, YOU STILL TRY TO ESCAPE ME. THIS IS THE JUNGLE, WHERE I AM SUPERIOR. TO MY TRIBE I AM NOT A FREAK!



TIE THEM UP! THEY SHALL PAY FOR CIVILIZATION'S CRUELTY TO ME! THEY SHALL PAY WITH THEIR LIVES!



AND AS A TROPICAL MOON THROWS ITS WEIRD GLOW ON A CLEARING, THE APES GATHER FOR THE CHANT OF DEATH FOR THE HUMANS.

DEATH TO THEM, MY BROTHERS. DEATH! DEATH!

IN THE CIRCLE OF OLDER APES, JEALOUS AAKA, DEPOSED BY ORANG, AROUSES HIS TRIBE. "LISTEN TO ORANG, OUR BROTHER, HE SHRIEKS, HE IS NOT LIKE US!". . .

.. "HE SPEAKS LIKE WEAK HUMANS. YET HE WOULD LEAD US. I CHALLENGE HIM BY THE LAW OF THE JUNGLE." .. KEYED TO A WILD FRENZY, THE APES LEAP ON ORANG. . . .



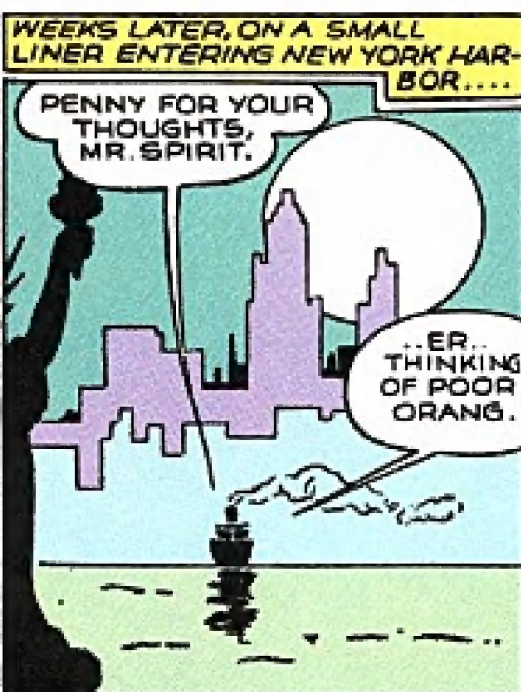
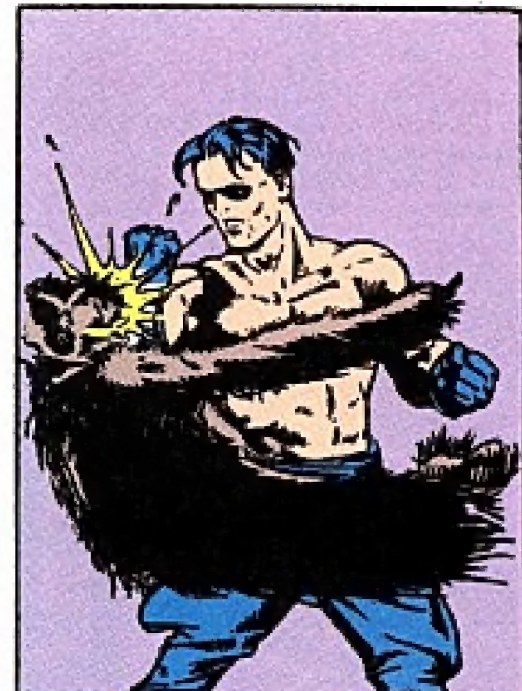
IT'S NOW OR NEVER, ELLEN. IT'S OUR ONLY CHANCE TO ESCAPE!

HURRY!

STRAINING EVERY MUSCLE, THE SPIRIT SNAPS HIS BONDS.



BACK IN THE CLEARING, THE STRUGGLE HAS NARROWED DOWN TO ORANG AND AAKA. THE REST OF THE TRIBE FOLLOW THE FLEEING COUPLE.



WEEKS LATER, ON A SMALL LINER ENTERING NEW YORK HARBOR....



PENNY FOR YOUR THOUGHTS, MR. SPIRIT.



IS THAT ALL? DOESN'T MOONLIGHT MEAN ANYTHING TO YOU?



ARE YOU SURE?



...ER... THINKING OF POOR ORANG.



NO... OF COURSE NOT.



WELL, COME TO THINK OF IT... NO!

